

# COMMITTEE STATEMENT

## LB 1360

HEARING DATE: February 3, 2000

COMMITTEE ON: Natural Resources

TITLE: (Redfield, Brashear, Brown, Engel, Kiel, D. Pederson, Schrock, Smith) Provide for a program for recognition and reward of businesses with exemplary environmental management

### ROLL CALL VOTE – FINAL COMMITTEE ACTION

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Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

#### Vote Results:

8	Yes	Senators Bromm, Bruning, Hudkins, Jones, Kremer, Preister, Schrock, Stuhr
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
0	Absent	

#### PROPOSERS

Senator Pam Redfield

John Hetcko

Tom Sasman

Marcia Willhite

Joe Francis

Tonya Hayes

#### REPRESENTING

Introducer

Square D, Nebraska State Chamber, NICE

Cargill

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

Department of Environmental Quality

Senator Pam Redfield

#### OPPOSERS

Steve Cady

#### REPRESENTING

Nebraska Pork Producers Association

#### NEUTRAL

None

#### REPRESENTING

#### SUMMARY OF PURPOSE AND/OR CHANGES:

Section 1: Includes this act into the current Environmental Protection Act.

Section 2: Provides for an application process to the program supporting environmental stewardship, to include a review team of 3-5 stakeholders.

## COMMITTEE STATEMENT

Requires the director to approve the application within 90 days after receipt if the business has demonstrated: a) an exemplary record of compliance for the previous five years; b) correction of minor issues within 5 days of notice; c) protection to the environment greater than that required by the EPA; and d) meets the International Organization for Standards certification.

Environmental management system must include provisions detailing commitment of management to the environment; compliance assurance and pollution prevention, enabling systems, performance and accountability, employee training, contingency plans and measurement and improvement.

For businesses of 50 but less than 250 employees, the environmental management system must include a written audit or assessment procedure relating to housekeeping, chemical storage and use, documentation of all mandatory and voluntary programs, and an emergency response plan.

For businesses of 250 or more employees, the system must also include a method to measure continuous improvement, third-party audits, mentoring, training or assistance to others in developing environmental programs.

Allows revocation of the certificate of eligibility if the business is no longer in compliance.

Allows the establishment by the director of a program to attract businesses to Nebraska or support Nebraska businesses. The program must consist of: a) expedited review of permit applications; and b) public recognition process; and may also provide for: a) less frequent reporting; b) facility wide permit for all approvals; c) changes in individual processes at a facility without the need for a new permit so long as total pollutant emissions or discharges do not increase; and d) reduced fees for any permit.

Section 3: Repealer.

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS, IF ANY:

None

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Senator Ed Schrock, Chairperson